

I am a US Army veteran, having served 1983-1988. I am a service-connected disabled vet, and am a strong advocate for veterans and their rights and entitlements. It is time the VA and government take care of those who served in our country's defense.

S.B. No. 345: It is essential that bus public transportation fares for veterans be eliminated for two reasons. First, those using these services are likely not to have any personal transportation available to use. Second, those using this public service can be veterans using VA facilities, with no other way to get to their appointments, whether healthcare or compensation appointments.

Whatever the number of veterans using this service, the cost is far outweighed by the necessity of taking care and helping those who served in our military.

S.B. No. 340: It is important to all veterans, that we know those who may have "fallen between the cracks", or their case been unjustly adjudicated, have an opportunity to present their case in light of evolving political circumstances. We veterans believe in "no veteran left behind"!

S.B. No. 341: It is essential, especially in the state of Connecticut, where the cost of property is so high, that we encourage

veterans to stay by giving them tax-relief. By making the state more veteran friendly, a source of highly motivated and well-disciplined workforce can be encouraged to seek employment in the state, as well as a treasure trove of experience for volunteer work as well.

S.B. No. 337: Because of the federal pension offset laws, and the high cost of living in Connecticut, we must open, to those who are living on federal pensions/retirement benefits assistance to be able to continue to live in Connecticut.

S.B. No. 343: It is beyond reason, that those who studied, trained and worked in Military Occupational Specialties (MOS) in their service, cannot in many cases transfer that training and experience into civilian service. The state loses many talented, trained and eager servicemembers by charging them fees to certify, license or register in their field of experience. The benefits of either waiving these fees or reimbursing them far outweigh the benefits of losing these motivated and trained veterans.

S.B. No. 344: Preference for veteran owned businesses and services is a clear win for the state. It is shown that veteran owned businesses are generally more motivated,

disciplined, honest and reliable than non-veteran owned businesses.

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For God and Country, Tom Moore